

Dear Honorable Sir,

I am writing concerning the spiraling out-of-control fee entitled "911 Fee." My latest phone bill showed it increased to \$0.75 (October 1, 2003) which was \$0.60 on September 30, 2003. The component that rose was the E911 portion from \$0.10 to \$0.25 per account). With the removal of a significant number of pay phone and little to no emergency phone system on a significant number of roadways in the State of Maryland, it is unconscionable to raise this fee in such a substantiative manner. This latest increase is approximately a 300% increase per annum or about 40-70 times the consumer price index rate increase. As one that does not have a cellular phone, it is disingenuous to subsidize this service in such a significant manner. The cellular phone companies and the State of Maryland need to come to terms with an equitable system and NOT expect the hard-working state resident taxpayers to "foot" the bill with little to no feedback (I am NOT aware of any public comment/feedback/discourse that occurred regarding this fee increase). With little relief for such huge increases in this fee in the near future, there is a real need to contact the appropriate stakeholders/personnel to mitigate this growing issue. Please coordinate, collaborate and cooperate on Federal, State and/or local jurisdictional levels in addressing these concerns potentially impacting adversely public finances, welfare, trust, confidence, and quality of life issues. Thank you for your time in this matter and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Alex Balboa

1996 Waverly Drive

Bel Air, MD 21015-1100